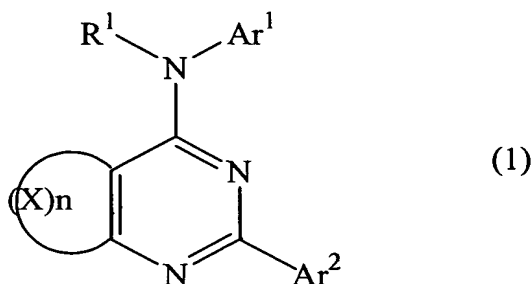


Claims

1. A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the fused ring between positions 5 and 6 of the pyrimidine ring is optionally substituted, is saturated, unsaturated or aromatic and contains 4-7 members, wherein each member is independently C, N, O or S with the proviso that if said ring contains 6 members, it is not aromatic;

each of Ar¹ and Ar² is independently an optionally substituted aromatic or optionally substituted heteroaromatic moiety wherein said heteroaromatic moiety contains one or more O, S, and/or N; and

R¹ is H or optionally substituted alkyl (1-10C), alkenyl (2-10C), or alkynyl (2-10C).

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein Ar¹ is monocyclic and contains 1-2N and Ar² is phenyl; or

R¹ is H or unsubstituted lower alkyl (1-6C).

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein optional substituents on the aromatic or heteroaromatic moiety represented by Ar¹ or Ar² or on said fused ring comprise alkyl (1-10C), alkenyl (2-10C), alkynyl (2-10C), acyl (1-10C), aryl, alkylaryl, aroyl, O-aryl, O-alkylaryl, O-aroyl, NR-aryl, NR-alkylaryl, NR-aroyl, or the hetero forms of any of the foregoing, halo, OR, NR₂, SR, -SOR, -NRSOR, -NRSO₂R, -SO₂R, -OCOR, -NRCOR, -NRCONR₂, -NRCOOR, -OCONR₂, -COOR, -SO₃R, -CONR₂, -SO₂NR₂, -CN, -CF₃, and/or NO₂, wherein each R is independently H or alkyl (1-6C) wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, acyl, aryl, alkylaryl, aroyl, O-aryl, O-alkylaryl, O-aroyl, NR-aryl, NR-alkylaryl, or NR-aroyl substituents may be further substituted by halo, OR, NR₂, SR, -SOR, -NRSOR, -NRSO₂R, -SO₂R, -OCOR, -NRCOR,

-NRCONR₂, -NRCOOR, -OCONR₂, -COOR, -SO₃R, -CONR₂, -SO₂NR₂, -CN, -CF₃,
and/or NO₂.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein the fused ring contains 5 or 6 members.
5. The compound of claim 4, wherein the fused ring contains 5 members and includes one or more heteroatoms which are N and/or O.
6. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises as active ingredient the compound of claim 1, along with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the compound of claim 1 is 4-[2-(5-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-cyclopentapyrimidin-4-ylamino]-N-methylnicotinamide.
8. A method to treat conditions ameliorated by inhibiting TGF β which method comprises administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 or a pharmaceutical composition thereof.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular disease, surgical incision, mechanical trauma, kidney disease associated with fibrosis, chronic ureteral obstruction, hepatic disease associated with excessive scarring and progressive sclerosis, syndromes associated with pulmonary fibrosis, collagen vascular disorders, eye diseases associated with fibroproliferative states, hypertrophic scar formation, disorders of the gastrointestinal tract associated with chronic inflammation, chronic scarring of the peritoneum, neurological conditions characterized by TGF β production or enhanced sensitivity to TGF β , diseases of the joints involving scarring, and cancer.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting of congestive heart failure, dilated cardiomyopathy, myocarditis, or vascular stenosis associated with atherosclerosis, and angioplasty treatment.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the kidney disease is selected from the group consisting of glomerulonephritis, diabetic nephropathy, renal interstitial fibrosis, hypertension, HIV-associated nephropathy, and transplant nephropathy.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the hepatic disease is selected from the group consisting of cirrhosis, biliary tree disorders, and hepatic dysfunction attributable to infections.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the syndromes associated with pulmonary fibrosis is selected from the group consisting of adult respiratory distress syndrome and pulmonary fibrosis.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the collagen vascular disorder is selected from the group consisting of progressive systemic sclerosis, polymyositis, scleroderma, dermatomyositis, fascists, Raynaud's syndrome, and arthritic conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the eye disorder is selected from the group consisting of proliferative vitreoretinopathy, fibrosis associated with retinal reattachment, and fibrosis associated with cataract extraction.

16. The method of claim 9, wherein the gastrointestinal disorder is selected from the group consisting of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, adhesion formation as a result of trauma or surgical wounds, and polyposis.

17. The method of claim 9, wherein the scarring of the peritoneum is produced by a condition selected from the group consisting of endometriosis, ovarian disease, peritoneal dialysis, and surgical wounds.

18. The method of claim 9, wherein the neurological disease is selected from the group consisting including states post-traumatic neurological injury, hypoxic neurological injury, Alzheimer's disease, and Parkinson's disease.

19. The method of claim 9, wherein the cancer is pancreatic cancer.
20. The method of claim 8, wherein the compound of claim 1 is 4-[2-(5-Chloro-2-fluoro-phenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-cyclopentapyrimidin-4-ylamino]-N-methyl-nicotinamide.